

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
JCS MESSAGE CENTER

ROUTINE
R 200345Z MAY 86
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC//JSI-7//
TO DIACURINTEL
AIG 7046
USDAO ISLAMABAD PK

ZYUW RUEKJCS2635 1400624

AIG 7011
AIG 7036

SERIAL: DIADIN 139-16A
SUBJ: PAKISTAN: AIRCRAFT DOWNED. (U)
DOI: 19 MAY 86 (AS OF 1740 EDT)
TEXT: 1. PAKISTANI F-16S SHOT DOWN AN INTRUDING AFGHAN SU-22/FITTER OVER PAKISTANI TERRITORY ON 17 MAY.
2. WHILE PERFORMING ROUTINE COMBAT AIR PATROLS, TWO F-16S ENGAGED FOUR AFGHAN AIRCRAFT ON A BOMBING RAID NEAR PARACHINAR. THE PAKISTANIS FIRED THREE AIM-9L MISSILES, STRIKING TWO OF THE AIRCRAFT. ONE OF THE GROUND-ATTACK FIGHTERS CRASHED 7 KM SOUTHEAST OF PARACHINAR AT JALANDHAR, AND THE OTHER, REPORTEDLY ON FIRE, ESCAPED ACROSS THE BORDER. A PAKISTANI AIR FORCE RECOVERY TEAM WAS AT THE WRECKAGE SITE, AS WERE SELECTED MEMBERS OF THE PRESS.
3. COMMENT: IT WAS THE SECOND CONFIRMED SHOOTDOWN OF AN AFGHAN AIRCRAFT BY F-16S. HOWEVER, IT WAS THE FIRST AFGHAN AIRCRAFT TO CRASH IN PAKISTANI TERRITORY. ON 12 APRIL AN AIRCRAFT WAS HIT, BUT IT CRASHED IN AFGHANISTAN. BOTH SHOOTDOWNS WERE CARRIED OUT IN AN AREA OF REPEATED BORDER VIOLATIONS, CONFIRMING ISLAMABAD'S WILLINGNESS--WHEN THE MEANS ARE AVAILABLE--TO RESIST SOVIET AND AFGHAN PRESSURE ON THE FRONTIER.
4. ISLAMABAD PLAYED DOWN THE PREVIOUS INCIDENT, BUT THE PAKISTANIS SEEM TO BE ENCOURAGING PUBLICITY FOR THE RECENT SHOOTDOWN, PERHAPS BECAUSE OF ITS TIMING AND SINCE THE DOWNED AIRCRAFT IS IN THEIR HANDS. THIS INCIDENT TOOK PLACE JUST AFTER THE EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT UN-SPONSORED PROXIMITY TALKS ON AFGHANISTAN WAS ANNOUNCED IN GENEVA. ISLAMABAD WILL TRY TO CAPITALIZE ON THE INCIDENT WITH WIDESPREAD PUBLICITY TO GAIN LEVERAGE FOR ITS BARGAINING POSITION AT THE NEGOTIATIONS. ALTHOUGH PRESS REPORTS STATE THE INCIDENT WILL DISRUPT THE TALKS, PAKISTAN HAS ANNOUNCED ITS PARTICIPATION WILL CONTINUE.
PREP:
DECL: OADR BT

ACTION JSI-7(1) DIA(1) (M)
INFO J1(1) J3(6) NIDS(1) JAD:(4) J4(9) J5(2) USRMCLO(1)
JSOA(1) SECDEF(9) USDP(11) C31(3) USDR:AE(1)
USDR:STNF(1) USDR:IPT(3) ASD:PA(1) ASD:PAGE(1)
USDP:DSAA(4) NMIC(1) DP(1) JSW-2(1) JSI-2(1)
JSI-3A(1) JSI-3B(1) JSI-3C(1) JSI-4A(1) JSI-4B(1)
JSI-5B(1) JSI-5A(1) DIC-3A(1) AT3(1) AT-3(2)
DB-2C(1) DB-2C2(1) DX-4B(1)
+DCA FIELD ACTIVITY WASHINGTON DC
+SAFE

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